Copy to = H. WEISBERG

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May 16, 1994

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.
Chairman, Legislation and National Security Subcommittee
Committee on Government Operations
House of Representatives
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6143

Attn: James C. Turner, Esq., Staff Director

Dear Mr. Chairman,

In my letter to you of January 3, 1994 I questioned the assertions made by Mr. Gerald Posner on 17 November, 1993 before your committee regarding his supposed interviews with John F. Kennedy's pathologists, James Humes, MD and J. Thornton Boswell, MD (enclosed). Specifically, I questioned whether JFK's pathologists had truly changed their minds about the low entrance location of the President's fatal skull wound, as alleged by Mr. Posner. JFK's pathologists claimed in their original autopsy report in 1963, and repeatedly have asserted since that time, that the wound was low, near the external occipital protuberance. Drs. Humes and Boswell reaffirmed the wound's low location in interviews published on 27 May, 1992 in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA). Mr. Posner claimed before your committee that he had interviewed JFK's pathologists, and that they had changed their minds -- reporting to him that the wound was 10-centimeters higher than their original low placement.

On March 30, 1994 I called Dr. Boswell. I read him the relevant parts of Mr. Posner's testimony before your committee. Dr. Boswell told me that he has not changed his mind about the low location of the fatal wound given in the original autopsy report. He also denied ever having spoken with Mr. Posner.

On the same day, and immediately after speaking with Dr. Boswell, I called Dr. Humes. Dr. Humes, who I had never met before, was understandably quite guarded and our conversation was brief. While I did not ask whether he had spoken with Mr. Posner, Dr. Humes told me that he stands by his assertion in JAMA on the location of the skull wound. Thus, while Mr. Posner may have spoken with Dr. Humes, he has apparently misinterpreted or misrepresented Dr. Humes's opinions.

I hope you find this information of interest and value. Please do call upon me anytime if I can be of assistance to you.

Very truly yours,

Gary L. Aguilar, MD
Chairman, Department of Surgery, Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, San Francisco
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, Stanford University Medical Center
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, University of California, San Francisco
Member, Board of Directors, San Francisco County Medical Society
Member, American Medical Association
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CALL FOR PAPERS

In recognition of the recent release of documents of significant historical importance, the Coalition on Political Assassinations has called for a national conference in Washington, D.C., sponsored by its member groups, the Assassination Archives and Research Center, Citizens for the Truth about the Kennedy Assassination, and the Committee for an Open Archives. The conference will be held at the Sheraton Washington Hotel from October 7 - 10, 1994. The Coalition is seeking papers for public presentation on the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy, Senator Robert F. Kennedy, and Reverend Martin Luther King, and related topics.

With the recent and continuing release of previously undisclosed records pertaining the JFK assassination, however, the major focus of the conference will be on the President's murder. Possible topics to be explored include the historical and political circumstances of his death, the medical and forensic evidence, the criminalistic and ballistic evidence, the findings of official investigations of his death, new information implicating possible suspects, and the media coverage and official responses to all of the above. Special emphasis will be placed on important new information gathered by independent researchers from recently released documents. There will aslo be an update on the actions of the Assassination Records Review Board.

Although the emphasis of the conference will be on JFK's death, papers addressing any similar subject categories pertaining to the deaths of Reverend Martin Luther King or Senator Robert Kennedy and others are also being solicited for presentation, as well as related topics.

Knowledgeable and interested parties are invited to submit abstracts of papers they propose to present. Depending on the subject and time constraints each speaker will be allowed from 5 to 30 minutes. The papers may be exclusively verbal or audio/visual presentations, or, preferably, a combination. Both papers exploring even single, important facts as well as papers presenting complex analyses are sought. Typed abstracts should be no more than 500 words in length yet sufficiently detailed to allow evaluation of the specific content. The papers selected for presentation at the conference will be chosen by committee on the merit of the abstracts submitted. Abstracts of the papers accepted will be collected and distributed to interested parties, including the media, in advance of the conference. A printed set of all complete presentations will be given to the registrants at the conference.

Please send (preferred) or FAX abstracts to: Gary L. Aguilar, MD, 909 Hyde Street, # 530, San Francisco, California, 94109, 415-775-3392, FAX: 415-563-4453. The deadline for submissions is August 1, 1994.